

BUDGET WORK SESSION of the Greenbelt City Council held May 4, 2009, for the purpose of reviewing the Public Works section of the Proposed FY 2010 Budget.

Mayor Davis started the meeting at 8:02 p.m. It was held in the meeting room of the Public Works Facility.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Jeff Williams, City Treasurer; Kenny Hall, Director of Public Works; Carolyn Clemens and Lesley Riddle, Assistant Directors of Public Works; William Smith, Refuse and Recycling Crew Supervisor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Jim Giese, News Review; and Yohance Ford.

Mr. Hall began the meeting by showing Council the geothermal heating and cooling system for the new Public Works facility and explaining how the system operates. Mayor Davis suggested the environmental features of the new facility be noted on the City website.

Mr. Hall then presented a slide show on the work and activities of the department. Ms. Riddle said the community build playground in Windsor Green would be scheduled in June. She also commented on the recent work done at the Veterans Memorial by a local Girl Scout troop with funds provided by the American Legion.

Next, Council reviewed each page of the Public Works sections of the budget. There was discussion regarding the use of energy efficient light fixtures and LED lights. Mr. Hall said fluorescent light fixtures in city buildings were being replaced with more energy efficient fixtures. He also said he is looking into using LED lights for traffic signals. Ms. Riddle said LED lights are now being used for the holiday tree.

Mr. Smith reported on the success of the pilot recycling program using 65 gallon residential carts. Mr. Hall said money is included in the budget for the purchase of an additional 50 carts.

Mayor Davis noted the environmental and sustainability work now being done by the Recycling Coordinator and suggested the title of the position be changed to Sustainability Coordinator. Mr. McLaughlin said he would review the position over time and report back to Council.

Mr. Hall said he was continuing to explore alternative fuel options for City vehicles. He also said the City would be receiving two demo all electric vehicles to test for a few days later this

week. There was discussion regarding installation of devices designed to increase fuel efficiency on city vehicles.

Mr. Hall and Ms. Riddle discussed the drainage problems on McDonald Field. Mr. Hall said French drains are being considered for the field.

Mayor Davis asked the status of the map designating City sidewalks. Mr. McLaughlin said the map was currently being worked on.

Mayor Davis mentioned College Park and New Carrollton had recently annexed several streets and asked if this impacted the sweeper billing formula. Mr. Hall and Mr. McLaughlin said they would contact both cities to determine if the street sweeper would be used on these streets.

Mr. Hall reported Ms. Robles had been working with local businesses to promote recycling and the American Legion had recently contracted with the City for recycling collection.

Ms. Riddle said the rodent problem in Roosevelt Center had been resolved and thanked the merchants and the City Code Enforcement employees for working with the Public Works Department on this problem.

Ms. Mach mentioned the Farmers Market was not included in the listing of events for Roosevelt Center. Mr. McLaughlin said this correction would be made.

There was discussion regarding different ways to expand the Greenbelt Connection service, including offering service on Saturdays and expanding Sunday service to 4:00 p.m., and extending weekly service from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mayor Davis requested these options be added to the "wish list" for further consideration at the final budget work session.

Informational Items

Mayor Davis asked for an updated Affirmative Action report.

Ms. Mach said she had attended the meeting of Roosevelt Center merchants last week. She said the merchants want to encourage use of the Center by employees of major business areas, such as Capital Office Park and USDA, and would like to be notified when stakeholder meetings with these groups are scheduled. Ms. Mach also said the merchants were interested in providing coupons for the Geocache.

The meeting ended at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Murray City Clerk